

PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

Divine artist of autumn's glory, help us to paint the world with your love and bring colour to lives that are grey and sad. As we warm ourselves by the hearth or watch fireworks, enflame our hearts with warmth for one another and shine your light through us on those in darkness. When we pray this month for loved ones departed and for the peace of the world, remind us that peace begins in our hearts.

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

ASHBOCKING

I am delighted to say that the **Swilland and Ashbocking Harvest barn dance** was an enormous success. The number of tickets sold (105) far outweighed expectation and everyone had an enjoyable evening with a two-course meal followed by lots of dancing to Inertia Reel, who kept us all on our toes. The children joined in with gusto and had a lovely time. It was a true team effort by people from both churches providing the food and setting up the tables. A big thank you to all concerned and also to the extra volunteers who stayed at the end and rapidly dismantled tables and stacked chairs. This was indeed a memorable occasion and will, I am sure, be repeated at a later date.

The **coffee-morning** for November is at 10.30am on the 6th, at John and Linda Pollard's house, Hawthorns, The Green, Ashbocking. Access is through Ashley Grange and our bungalow is at the end through the gates. There is plenty of parking and all are welcome. If you feel able to host a coffee-morning next year, please bring your diaries with you so that we can arrange the rota. This usually equates to one morning a year and does not require any special culinary skills, as coffee and biscuits are perfectly adequate.

The **Remembrance Day service is on Sunday 8th November at 10.50am** to allow us to have the 2 minute silence at 11.00am. Everyone is welcome.

Linda Pollard

ASHBOCKING HOMEGROUP

Every 1st and 3rd Wednesday from 10 am to 12 noon

We meet to study scripture, to pray and to discover together "that for which Christ Jesus has taken hold of us". (Philippians 3:12)

Nov. Wednesday 4th and 18th

Dec. Wednesday 2nd

At 4 The Cottages, Ashley Grange, Ashbocking IP6 9JH

Call Jan or Jon Bates for more information: 892605

CLOPTON

We send our love and sympathy to the family of Jean Cook, who died in September. Jean had lived for many years in Clopton, first at the cottage at Clopton Hall, working with her husband for Lord Cairns. They then bought two old run-down cottages in Drabbs Lane and set about turning them into their home. Jean is survived by her son John and his wife Sarah, and by her daughter Caroline and her husband Nigel, and by three grandchildren. The funeral was at Seven Hills crematorium on Thursday 8th October.

We celebrated talents at our harvest festival. Everyone enjoyed breakfast of bacon butties, toast, tea and coffee before the service. Thank you to the people who decorated the church, put together the display of Clopton events and groups, and manned the breakfast 'kitchen'. Julie Gittoes demonstrated spinning, Jane Hall talked about her beehive, Penny Moon told us about all the activities that happen in Clopton and Xanthe and Rufus showed us their lovely pictures. We were without an organist until Jenny Schurr offered to play - thanks Jenny! People gave generously of fruit, vegetables and produce and we delivered eight large boxes to the Salvation Army hostel in Ipswich.

The Hobbies and Chat morning is on Wednesday 4th November from 10.00am until noon in the village hall; everyone is welcome.

On Sunday 8th November our Remembrance Day service will be held at the 493rd Bombardment Group memorial off Snipe Farm Road at 10.50am.

The November coffee-morning is on Wednesday 18th November at the village hall from 10 am until noon. It will be hosted by Penny Moon and Sue Emmerson. Please come and join us.

Doris Main

Church cleaning
Church flowers

Audrey and Chris Barker
Doris Main

OTLEY

Harvest Festival was held in the Chilvers' lovely barn, when we celebrated not only the traditional produce of our gardens and the crops of the fields, but also people's personal talents and community organisations. The Scouts were on parade and some of them showed the badges they had achieved. The collection was sent to Farm Africa and after the service we enjoyed a delicious lunch outside in the sunshine.

On 1st November at 11.00am there will be an All Souls service in church, to remember family and friends who have died, and on 8th November the Remembrance Sunday service will be at the war memorial opposite the shop, starting at 10.45am so that we can observe the two-minute silence at 11.00am.

Otley Church Preservation Trust is producing Christmas cards again, one a beautiful photograph of a Sue Courteney holly wreath on the church door, and another pack of different Christmas drawings by twins Ellie and Anna, the daughters of Malcolm and Kate Watson. The cards come in packs of 5 at a cost of £3, the

same price as in previous years, and are available from Tess Papworth (890091) or me (890430). They really are lovely and of high quality.

The Scouts had their 40th anniversary camp at the village playing-field at the end of September, with over sixty Scouts, Cubs and Beavers attending. The Scouts and Cubs camped overnight for two nights, and four of the Beavers camped out for one night, a 'first' for them. There were many activities, including crossing a rope bridge, shooting, the county caving exercise, and controlling a small digger to move a ball over cones, testing dexterity. In the evening they had a celebration camp fire.

Brian Childs is standing down after forty years of inspiring leadership and he received two retirement presentations. One was from the District and past and present leaders - a gift of vouchers to buy specialist chisels for wood-carving, and a limited edition bottle of whiskey. The Otley Scout Group gave him a garden bench, made by the Genesis charity in Ipswich, and carved with his name and the Scouts fleur-de-lys symbol, plus a 40th anniversary cake. Christine received a rose bush and a bottle of wine (from Cliff Richard's vineyard!) for her support over the years. Many past Scouts, friends and supporters (including some surprise visitors), and Brian and Christine's family, joined them and the Scouts around the camp fire. It was a wonderful occasion.

Thank you to everybody who attended our coffee-morning for Macmillan Cancer Support, and to our helpers, Ann Baker, Christine Childs, Ruth Farnhill and Anne Robinson. With additional donations we made £510, a fantastic result, and that has been sent to the local committee for the new Woolverstone Macmillan Centre at Ipswich Hospital. We are very sad to hear that Juliet Bellfield has died since then, after almost thirty years of chairing the local Macmillan committee and raising nearly £1 million, a great legacy. We send love and sympathy to Peter and his family.

The Community Council firework display will be on Sat. 7th November starting at approx. 7.30 pm. Gates open at 7 for hot dogs, soup, glowsticks etc. Admission £3 adults, £2 children and £10 for a family of 4. (The reserve evening is Sat. 14th in the event of very bad weather.)

The next monthly coffee-morning will be held on Thursday 26th November at 16 Spring Park, the home of Karin and Brian Upson, where you will be very welcome.

We are sorry to say that Jim Haag of Swiss Farm, Otley, has died and a great number of people attended his funeral. He first came here to farm in the 1930s and was generous to both the church and village. We send sympathy to all his family.

Rose Rogerson

Village diary

- 5th November** Friendship club - Christmas cards craft
7th November Fireworks evening - Community Council
13th November Clairvoyant evening - Under 5s
19th November Friendship club – sugar-paste demonstration by Wendy Marshall
5th December Church Christmas draw & coffee-morning 10 am
5th December School Christmas bazaar 11 am to 1 pm
5th December Community Council Christmas dinner/dance - Tables of 10, tickets £22 each from James Green tel. 892109

Church Flowers

Tessa Brown (no flowers in Advent)

Cleaning Rota

1st/3rd Week Tessa Brown

4th Week Richard and Angela Treloar

Sidepersons' Rota:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| 1st November | 11.00am All Souls Service | Peter Rogerson |
| 8th November | 11.00am Remembrance Service | TBA |
| 15th November | 9.30am Holy Communion | Penny Clark |
| 22nd November | 6.30pm Evening Prayer | TBA |

Building Work on Otley Church

Repairs to stonework near the base of the tower, and to four windows are now complete. Large blocks of Caen stone have been skilfully carved to replicate the originals, and should last for hundreds of years. This means that the fabric of the church is currently in good order. We are very grateful to various charities, including Otley Church Preservation Trust, for helping us to finance this project.

The wonderful, stained-glass west window has been completely renovated, re-leaded and fitted with a stainless steel window-guard. This work was entirely financed from money left to the church by the late John Fosdike. The window is to be dedicated in his memory at a special service on Sunday 3rd January 2016.

Nigel Crowley

Otley Under Fives

Otley Under Fives have been swishy-swashying and splash-splashing round the village on their very own bear hunt. Residents will be pleased to know no bears have been found – yet – but if there are any out there, I'm sure the children will find them!

They have continued to observe the changes to village life as autumn arrives: collecting leaves to use in their artwork; clearing the vegetable garden; and watching farmers plough the fields. The warm weather has meant lots of activity outside, putting the mud kitchens and new water wall to good use.

A highlight of the last month has been the visit of the Ferrel Circus Troupe. The Big Top was erected on the Primary School's playing field and Otley Under Fives joined the troupe for an afternoon of spinning plates, juggling and general clowning around with Class One before watching, and taking part in live performances.

We are hosting a clairvoyance evening with Ryan Gooding on Friday 13th November. Tickets cost £10 and all monies go to Otley

Under Fives. If you have any old clothes and rags please send them our way. We regularly submit a 'rag bag', and receive 100% of the value of the donations.

For more information about Otley Under Fives, to arrange a visit and free trial session or to talk to a member of the team please call [07789 468853](tel:07789468853).

FFY

FFY would like to say a big 'thank you' to the Beaumont family for a lovely party at their home. We had a lovely time with swimming, eating and toasting marshmallows by the camp fire, a perfect way to say 'thank you' to Catherine for all her hard work over the last 10 years.

Otley Bowls Club

Your local bowls club has had a very successful season across the three local leagues we compete in, especially considering we are quite a small club. We won the Fynn league for the second time in four years. We were promoted to the first division (I like to call it the premiership) of the Woodbridge & District league, and we were promoted to the second division in the Bowls England Ipswich league. We also reached the area (quarter of county) final of the Junior Cup and Jubilee Shield knockout competitions. Additionally some of our individual members progressed to advanced stages of county level competitions.

The next season starts at the end of April. If you are interested in playing bowls, we are always open to new members. You can find us on Facebook or Google by searching for "Otley Bowls Club". Please get in touch and we can arrange a friendly 'roll-up' game with our current members.

Phil Quilliam

Otley and District Gardening Club

Our second meeting at the village hall is on Monday 2nd November, featuring a talk on "Gardening for Wildlife" by invited speaker Sally Helper. All are welcome.

Alan Trevelyan

SWILLAND

BARN DANCE - this was a joint venture with Ashbocking with whom we are now a Companion Church. This was organised by a small committee chaired by Catherine. Thank you to those people who worked so hard and contributed so much to this event. We were also helped by several other people who made lasagnes, puddings and worked tirelessly on the day to set up the hall, serve the food, wash up (the dishwasher was not working!) and clear the hall afterwards. The cost of hiring the hall was donated and most of the food was given. The evening was very well supported and everyone enjoyed themselves. The dancing continued enthusiastically till 10.00pm. Thank you to Inertia Reel for the music and calling. While the object was to provide a social event for Swilland and Ashbocking rather than raise funds, we did make over £130 for each church, thanks to everyone's generosity. We hope to repeat it in two years' time.

REMEMBRANCE DAY - the Swilland service will be at the Memorial at about 11.45am on Sunday 8th November.

CHRISTMAS DRAW - Saturday 12th December in Witnesham village hall. A light lunch and mince pies will be served from 12 noon with the draw taking place at 1 pm. If you can help to sell tickets please contact Gill Reidy (785716). Any draw prizes you are able to give should also be taken to Gill please. Counterfoils and money should either be returned to Gill or to me after 7th December.

CAROL SINGING - Friday 18th December starting at 6.00pm at the

water-tower finishing at the Moon and Mushroom where we will be singing for about an hour. There will be a rehearsal in the church on Monday 14th December at 7.30pm.

Ann Kent

Flower Rota:

1st - 8th November

Margo Barker

15th – 22nd November

Jackie Williams

29th November – 6th December

Gill Reidy (greenery only for Advent)

RAINFALL – SEPTEMBER

September this year has provided an unusual variety of weather beginning with a dry and sunny period and then in the middle of the month we had 2.5 inches of persistent rain. This was followed with another sunny and warm spell which carried on until the beginning of October. This year we have had both short intervals of rain and sun and this has meant that the land has been neither too dry nor very wet and has given us good yields of both cereals and garden produce.

There is unfortunately a downside to all good news and the mild winter and the following summer, which were so beneficial for our produce, have also been just what the rats wanted to breed well. Rats tend to go out into the fields during the summer, but as soon as the harvest is finished and we get wet weather they come back to look for warm winter quarters with a supply of food. This can be found not only in farm buildings but in garden sheds and outhouses, so keep anything edible in rat-proof containers and lay rat bait before they appear rather than wait until they get settled in and start breeding. A stitch in time ...

Rainfall for September was 3.40 inches.

Russell Ling

Prisons Week

Because of increasing concern 40 years ago for the welfare of prisoners in England and Wales, chaplains and other Christians started Prisoners' Week, to encourage prayer for people in prison.

This year Prisons Week – as it has become – is being held from 15 to 21 November and is attracting wide support across denominations. The former Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Williams, is strongly behind it, observing that “one of the most serious aspects of being in prison can be the sense of isolation and even abandonment; and one of the most effective witnesses that can be given to prisoners is the assurance that they are not forgotten”.

About 85,000 people are in 150 or so prisons in the UK and Northern Ireland. The vast majority of them (over 80,000) are men. A surprising number of innocent children are affected: in 2009, some 200,000 children in England and Wales had a parent in prison.

Christians wanting to get involved in Prisons Week through letter-writing would do best to consult Prison Fellowship, which has 130 local prayer groups and 1500 volunteers. They are easily tracked down on the internet. You can keep abreast of events in Prisons Week itself on Twitter by following @PrisonsWeek.

To go one step further and become an official prison visitor, you should contact the National Association of Official Prison Visitors, who say “the cumulative effect of regular, friendly and non-judgmental contact can, and often does, make a positive difference.”

Smile Lines

Notice in a farmer's field:

The farmer allows walkers to cross this field for free, but the bull charges.

Message on a leaflet:

If you cannot read, this leaflet will tell you how to get lessons.

On a repair shop door:

We can repair anything. (Please knock hard for entry – bell broken)

Creation

Why did God create man before woman?

Because he didn't want any advice and because it's always good to have a rough draft before you create your masterpiece.

Nun

What do you call a sleepwalking nun?

A roamin' Catholic.

Moses

Why did Moses wander through the desert for 40 years?

Because even back then men wouldn't stop and ask for directions.

Daniel

Said Daniel on entering the lion's den: "Well, whoever does the after-dinner speaking, it won't be me!"

The new minister – look it up

The new minister was visiting in the homes of his parishioners. At one house it seemed obvious that someone was at home, but no answer came to his repeated knocks at the door. Finally he took out a card, wrote 'Revelation 3:20' on the back and stuck it in the door.

When the offering was processed the following Sunday, he found that his card had been returned. Added to it was this cryptic message, 'Genesis 3:10'. Reaching for his Bible to check out the citation, he broke up in gales of laughter.

Revelation 3:20 begins "Behold, I stand at the door and knock." Genesis 3:10 reads, "I heard your voice in the garden and I was afraid for I was naked."



POPPIES

Poppies flower in the summer, don't they? So why poppies in November? You will see them everywhere in the next week or so, and everyone from the smallest Rainbow or Beaver to the Queen will be wearing a poppy on Remembrance Sunday. We wear poppies because, among all the mud and chaos of the battlefields of the Great War, men were amazed to see the humble field flower of home spring up where the earth was disturbed – a blood red splash of colour in a sea of khaki.



When the British Legion started an appeal to help those whose bodies or minds had been smashed by war, the poppy seemed an ideal symbol. And even now, when World War I and II seem so far away, our troops are fighting, being wounded and dying; reminding us that the poppy is also a symbol of sacrifice.

PRINT A POPPY

How? Well the answer lies in your own hands. You will need a white paper plate, red and black finger or poster paint and two margarine lids or saucers to put the paint on. Put some newspaper on the table and start. Squeeze some red paint onto one lid or saucer and put black paint on the other one. Put your thumb into the red paint and use it to make 5 overlapping petals in a circle on the edge of your plate. Put your index finger into the black paint and use it to stamp a centre for your poppy.

Continue printing poppies all round the edge of your plate to make a wreath. Leave it to dry and then you can write 'Lest We Forget' or 'Remembrance' in the middle of the plate. You could hang the plate in your front window to share with others.



When is the first food fight mentioned in the Bible?

'I looked and behold a flying roll!' (Zech 5:1 KJV)

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